CIO Registration No. 1179578

Company Registration No. CE014895 (England and Wales)

BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	H Bhogal	(Appointed 19 May 2021)
	H Charlton	
	A Chong	
	S Deacon CBE	(Appointed 19 May 2021)
	W Gillis	
	L Lee	
	M McGillicuddy	(Appointed 19 May 2021)
	C Thwaite	(Appointed 19 May 2021)
	S Wheeler	
Chief Executive Officer	Jessica Taplin	
CIO registration number	1179578	
Auditor	Azets Audit Services	
	Ruthlyn House	
	90 Lincoln Road	
	Peterborough	
	United Kingdom	
	PE1 2SP	
Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc	
	PO Box 15	
	Cathedral Square	
	Peterborough	
	Cambridgeshire	
	PE1 1HW	

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 8
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	9
Independent auditor's report	10 - 13
Statement of financial activities	14
Balance sheet	15
Statement of cash flows	16
Notes to the financial statements	17 - 24

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees are pleased to present their report, together with the financial statements for the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), British Gas Energy Trust, for the year 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements. They comply with the CIO's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and Activities

British Gas Energy CIO exists for:

(i) The relief of poverty, particularly among those who are unable to meet or pay charges for the supply of energy provided to premises used or occupied by them.

(ii) The prevention and relief of poverty by educating the public in relation to debt awareness and prevention.

The CIO, while carrying out its activities, is mindful of the legal requirement for all of its charitable aims to be for the public benefit. The public benefits provided by the CIO include:

- · Provision of grants to charitable organisations to provide fuel debt advice services in communities.
- · Provision of grants to individuals to alleviate fuel debt.
- Provision of other grants, aligned to the CIO's objectives, to help people manage indebtedness.

In September 2020, the Trustees approved a new Strategic Framework for the CIO. This set the CIO's strategic intent for the coming years and directly informs the CIO's Theory of Change (ToC). ToC is the tool used to define our mission, aims, objectives and the outcomes we seek to deliver, and then to ensure our programmes and activities are impactful and delivering positive change for those we support.

Our mission: To alleviate the detrimental impact of poverty

Helping people in, or at risk of, financial hardship meet their energy needs and manage their energy costs through support, education and raising awareness of sound money management.

The aim of the CIO is:

- To help people avoid the burden of energy debt, make informed energy choices and improve their money
 management skills. We envisage that this will lead to healthier homes and enhanced well-being.
- To enhance the capacity of the organisations we fund and to provide breadth and depth of support to people in financial hardship, specifically by enabling the development and provision of holistic support, including money, energy and advice services.

The CIO intends to achieve the following objectives through its charitable activity work:

- Foster individual skills, capabilities and competencies so people can build financial stability and thrive.
- Help people in financial hardship maximise their income, avoid the burden of energy debt, meet their energy needs and manage their energy and other household costs, whilst informing their energy decisions and supporting choice in a changing world.
- Identify impactful interventions to improve support services for those facing financial hardship.
- Effectively manage our funds and develop our organisation to be more impactful.

As a charity, these are the values we seek to uphold: kindness, empathy, respect, and working in an innovative, agile and collaborative way.

BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Management and Risk Controls

The CIO conducts its activities in two ways:

- Making grants to organisations to provide money and energy advice and related support and services.
- Making grants to individuals and families to provide relief from energy debt and assistance with other energy and money support measures.

The reporting period has seen a continued focus on building the CIO's financial processes and operational capacity and capability. This has included external audits of Data Protection, Risk Management, External Grant Making and Finance Operational Systems, and the subsequent implementation of enhanced processes for the CIO. The CIO Board and executive team remain focused on examining and discussing the major external, reputational, regulatory and compliance, operational, financial and environmental risks which the CIO faces.

The CIO's first full-time Chief Executive has been in post since January 2020, and has effectively helped the CIO evolve into an efficient, outcomes-led organisation, ensuring operational and strategic rigor whilst identifying and implementing new systems and processes, and strengthening the relationship with British Gas.

In 2021-2022, through its Memorandum of Understanding, British Gas confirmed additional funding for the CIO in line with the Warm Home Discount Scheme. As intended, before the end of the 2021-2022 Financial Year, the CIO received confirmation of 2022-2026 funding of at least £6m per annum for England & Wales. Funding for Scotland is predicted to be £800,000 per annum which is sufficient to maintain the current level of activity in Scotland. There have been no significant changes in the eligibility or approach to the Industry Initiative element of the Warm Home Discount scheme from 2022-2026, and the CIO shall continue to deliver in line with the current strategy and approach over this period.

The CIO recognised that there were risks in continuing with Contractor arrangements with the core operational team. Moreover, with British Gas's stated intention to continue funding the Trust through to 2026, there was renewed confidence around the Trust's funding. Advice was provided by Farrer & Co and presented to the Trustee Board on the 19th of May 2021, which stated that moving the team onto employment contracts would have a number of advantages for the CIO:

- Control and integration
- Duty of fidelity and mutual trust and confidence
- Certainty / transparency

The CEO was tasked by the Board to undertake a Benefit Risk analysis for the CIO becoming an employer. And in May 2021, Trustees agreed "to move forward with establishing an employee staff structure in a respectful way."

A Remuneration Sub-committee of the Board was subsequently established by written resolution, with the functions and delegated authority from the Board. The Remuneration Committee was supported by the CIO's lawyers, Farrer & Co, who provided independent legal advice. In addition to this, HR advice was sought together with advice from an Independent Financial Advisor, on pension, HMRC and payroll implications. The Board supported the recommendations of the Committee, and the final transition to a staff team took place on the 6th April 2022.

The Board agreed in December 2021 that the Trust would adhere to the following Operating and Funding Principles:

Operating Principles:

- · Maintain high operational standards to help ensure continuous delivery of impactful services and interventions.
- Be flexible to seek to accommodate and deliver where possible additional funding initiatives in accordance with any restrictions, regulatory guidance or limitations.
- Stabilise annual operation costs at no higher than 15% of total income.
- Always maintain comprehensive financial and other records required to confirm the delivery of its funded programmes, providing timely information when required by British Gas.
- Understand the corporate, social, sustainability, net zero and other relationship drivers facing British Gas, and consider these as appropriate, when designing or targeting future funding programmes and initiatives.
- Ensure the Trust, within its charitable remit, remains responsive to the changing needs of vulnerable groups, including British Gas customers.
- Introduce grant management systems and identify other technology to streamline grant making and reduce data management risks.

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

- Remain an intelligent funder, listening to all stakeholders to ensure grant making, monitoring and oversight is efficient and not over burdensome.
- Identify and embed increasingly efficient and effective ways of assessing and distributing direct grants.
- Continue to invest 1% of total income on our capacity to understand the impact of funding.
- Utilise mapping and data analysis to ensure funding is directed to communities identified as at a greater risk of fuel poverty.

Funding Principles:

- Fund projects directly to ensure that funding is not lost from the front line. This means we avoid funding through umbrella groups or central bodies.
- Fund not-for-profit organisations, of which the majority will have a turnover of under £1.5m, to ensure we are not funding large overheads.
- · Encourage collaboration and projects which involve like-minded organisations combining their expertise.
- Operate on a LA level when identifying need.
- Focus on locality and people, and target funding where there is high need, and where existing resource is constrained or overwhelmed.
- Actively seek new ways of reaching those most in need and the hardest to reach.
- Fund "whole person support" and caseworker led approaches that delivery support.
- Can fund organisations that are struggling but are still a going concern.
- Ensure direct grants are aimed at those most in need of support.

Charitable Activity

The CIO achieves its charitable objectives by operating several grant giving programmes; which sit under two main funding streams: an "Individuals and Families Grants Programme Stream" and an "Organisational Grants Programme Stream". This year, an additional programme was launched within the individual and families funding stream, with a new restricted funding of £2.3m received from British Gas. This new fund was launched in November 2021 to support households facing fuel poverty due to the cost-of-living crisis and the economic fallout of the pandemic.

Throughout the financial year, these initiatives have seen the CIO support the provision of advice to 23,391 people, 1,388 energy debt write-off grants under the Individual and Families Programme, 2,211 grants through the Winter Fund, 1,640 Emergency Energy Vouchers, 323 Bankruptcy and DRO support fees, 2,197 energy efficiency measures and 12 grants to fund boiler installations.

Debt write off grants

The Individuals and Families Programme and Winter Fund both provide debt relief grants to people, to clear their household energy debt. The programme is aimed at people who are experiencing financial difficulty and as such are unable to pay their outstanding energy debt. It is needs-led and open to applicants from anywhere in England, Scotland and Wales.

Applicants at risk of fuel poverty receive their grants in the form of credit applied to their energy account. British Gas Energy Trust is interested in funding

Debt Write off grants continued to support groups identified at a higher risk of fuel poverty

	Winter Fund (%)	Individual & Families (%)	
Receiving disability benefit	36	39	
Carets Allowance	13	13	110
3 or more children	16	16	
Over 75 in household	2	4	
Child Under 5	25	5	
Sole Parent	30	1	-
			#1171

applications where the applicant can show a sustainable position moving forward. The Trust expects that the money advisor who has supported the applicant has ensured that all advice given and action taken by their agents or appointed representatives a) has regard to the best interests of the applicant, b) is appropriate to the individual circumstances of the applicant, and c) is based on a sufficiently full assessment of the financial circumstances of the applicant.

The Individual & Families Programme provides grants to both British Gas customers and customers of other energy suppliers, whereas the Winter Fund was an additional restricted donation from British Gas and specifically supports vulnerable British Gas customers struggling with fuel debt.

BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

In most cases, grants are awarded to individuals who find themselves in debt due to a life-changing experience, for example, job loss, bereavement or sudden illness or medical condition. In recent years, significant numbers of applications have come from households who have been adversely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

During assessment, the assessors look for evidence to show that, after clearing their debt with an energy grant, applicants would be able to manage their income to meet their outgoings in the longer term.

As well as grants for clearing household energy debts, the CIO also considers applications for boiler repairs/replacements and makes emergency awards to households on pre-payment meters who are in immediate need of a financial assistance payment.

In 2021-2022, in addition to grants for British Gas customers, the Trust awarded 415 debt write-off awards to fuel-poor households from 33 different energy providers, totalling £312,092. That equates to 30% of the total debt write-off grants awarded of £1 million.



Debt write off grants increased 99% year on year

Successful Applicants

The CIO continues to help those on very low incomes, who are in or at risk of fuel poverty. Three quarters of people helped by funded projects in the last year had an annual household income of less than £16,190. These clients' incomes are in the lowest 20% in the UK. In addition to this only one in five were in either full or part-time employment. Nearly one third of respondents were unable to work because of long-term sickness or disability.

The programmes continue to help those with disability and long-term illness:

- 62% of clients reported that they live with a long-term health condition or disability.
- 41% live with a health condition that means they are more likely to spend more time at home.
- 32% reported that they live with a cold-related illness.

Government evidence suggests that people living in rented homes are more likely to experience fuel poverty, and with funded organisation clients, 80% of those supported lived in rented accommodation^{1.}

"Both Debt-Write off and Funded Orgs were found to be effective at reaching some of the individuals and groups identified as most at risk of fuel poverty. These included low-income households; recipients of Universal Credit; renters; households with children; younger and older people; and ethnic minorities."

CSE Report Dec 2021

Funded Organisation Programme Stream

The CIO funded 37 advice projects across England, Wales and Scotland during the reporting period, delivered through 43 not-for-profit grantee organisations.

These organisations provide a wide range of impartial and independent specialist fuel debt advice services including:

- Budget planning.
- Benefit / income maximisation checks.
- Energy supplier / tariff switching exercises.
- Access to energy vouchers and emergency heating sources.
- Resolution of energy debt problems.
- Negotiating with energy suppliers.
- · Completing applications to any other grant giving schemes, e.g., Warm Home Discount and ECO schemes
- Home energy efficiency surveys and specific energy efficiency advice.
- Generalist advice on subjects including mental health, housing, employment and discrimination, to help
 address other barriers to financial well-being.

¹ Fuel poverty - GOV.UK Ethnicity facts and figures (ethnicity-facts-figures.service.gov.uk)

BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

"Both the I&F and CRF programmes succeeded in reaching people considered as energy vulnerable, based on Ofgem and capabilities framework-based definitions of energy vulnerability. Both programmes reported clients adopting more energy-wise behaviours, which result in more affordable fuel bills and warmer homes. Both programmes succeeded in improving around two thirds of their clients' financial situation. Programmes also had comparable effectiveness in helping clients to manage their worries about finances"

Centre for Sustainable Energy - Dec 2021 (CSE)

Deliverables

The number of interventions by funded projects rose by 17% YOY, from 88,177 to 106,367. The increase in interventions is due in part to a 63% rise in repeat beneficiaries, which is a result of the Board's strategic decision to focus on providing personcentered support. Advisors reported that they were better able to understand clients' needs and to signpost them to appropriate support as a result of receiving BGET funding.

The CIO's programme has focused on building the capacity and resilience of the advice sector as a specific outcome, this has led to an enhanced, greater level of service for the people supported by the funded organisations. As a result of the CIO's funding, advice providers report that they have built new partnerships, trained their staff and partners, added to their holistic service offerings and gained extra funding from other sources.

Over the financial period, money and energy advisers funded by the Trust have supported 23.391 unique beneficiaries with advice. They have created 11,581 individual budget plans for unique beneficiaries, completed 17,042 income maximisation checks and supported 13,741 with home energy efficiency.

CIO Funding Impact

Understanding the needs of the CIO's beneficiaries and the challenges they face, and how the CIO can help to bring about positive changes to their lives, is integral to providing meaningful support. The CIO continues to deliver in line with the ToC established in 2020, and evidence continues to support that the Trust is delivering against its objectives.

It is worth highlighting that over the three years from 2019/20 to the end of the last, financial grants distributed rose by 31% from £4,660,111 to £6,107,749.

The Trust commissioned independent research from the Centre of Sustainable Energy, the research evidenced that the CIO continues to deliver programmes that enable our core objectives. Survey respondents provided positive feedback on the impact of support:

1. Warmer healthier homes

Almost 73% reported that, after receiving support, they were better able to keep their home warm.

2. Improvement in financial situation

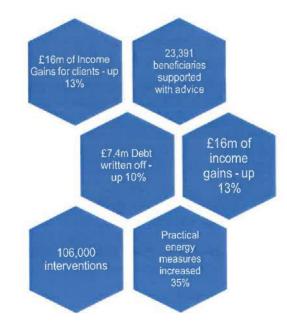
Just under three quarters (73%) helped experienced an improvement in their financial situation since receiving support.

3. Improved financial skills, budgeting and financial literacy

Over three quarters (78%) reported that they now plan ahead for household bills and other expenses.

4. Healthier household budgets, increased income, reduced debt, lower energy bills

Over two thirds (68%) reported that support helped them to access additional income.



TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5. More energy efficient homes, more affordable bills and more awareness of energy saving actions

Projects have been prolific in providing energy advice. Some of the most popular energy saving actions as a result included stopping leaving lights on, not overfilling the kettle and adjusting the thermostat temperature setting. This indicates that clients were adopting advice, leading to better energy management or reduction, and combatting rising fuel prices. 40% of respondents said they had switched to a renewable energy tariff or supplier. A third of clients were supported with heating or insulation installations (a smaller number, but reliant on third party funding).

6. Improved wellbeing and reduced stress and anxiety

Advisors across funded programmes reported that support helped reduce client stress and anxiety, which was an important outcome.

"Both the I&F and CRF programmes succeeded in reaching people considered as energy vulnerable, based on Ofgem and capabilities framework-based definitions of energy vulnerability. Both programmes reported clients adopting more energy-wise behaviours, which result in more affordable fuel bills and warmer homes.

Both programmes succeeded in improving around two thirds of their clients' financial situation. Programmes also had comparable effectiveness in helping clients to manage their worries about finances"

Centre for Sustainable Energy - Dec 2021 (CSE)

The CIO's Leadership

The CEO's work and the strengthening of the executive team, as well as attendant initiatives in 2021/2022, has continued to permit the Trustees to step back from needing to be involved in operational issues. As such, over the last year the Board has been focusing more appropriately on non-executive issues such as strategy, risk and governance. The CEO has delegated authority to oversee and manage the day-to-day operation of the CIO. The Board provide relevant challenge and support in line with the Charity Commission's good governance.

Financial review

Reserves Policy

At 31 March 2022, the audited accounts indicate that the CIO has unrestricted reserves of £2,419,580.

The Trust's Reserves Policy requires designated reserves of six months of wind-down costs currently £369,510.

It should be noted that the cash held at the end of the Financial Year has increased due to the deferred income of £2.4m from British Gas. These restricted funds were destined for the Energy Support Fund which launched in April 2022, and the funding is due to be fully expended through awards by Autumn 2022. There was also an underspend of £211,712 from the Funded Organisation Programme that was to be refunded or carried forward. It is for the same reason that reserves rose at the end of the 2021-2022 Financial Year.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have an existing policy that monetary assets surplus to that needed for day-to-day operations would be held in a reserve account with a competitive rate of interest. This is currently under review.

Future Plans

British Gas, as the CIO's principal funder, has committed a minimum £6million to the CIO in 2022/23 through the Warm Home Discount, and this support is expected to continue until 2026; in addition to this restricted funding of £4m was awarded for the Energy Support Fund launching in April 2022.

As of June 2022, the Board noted the very significant impact of the cost-of-living crisis on people the Trust already supports, with evidence in the public domain that those on the lowest incomes are the worst affected as they have the least financial resilience. In addition, it is widely reported that as a result of the cost-of-living crisis, people who previously were able to manage their finances, albeit only just, are now in fuel poverty and face severe financial difficulty for the first time, and they too need help.

Trustees recognised the breadth and depth of the crisis and its wider impact on people who now find themselves in financial distress and facing fuel poverty, and the regrettable impacts on them. Trustees acknowledged that the Trust's resources are limited, and agreed that the Trust's primary focus should remain on using its grant programmes to support people who are on the very lowest incomes, and on funded projects in the geographical areas identified as a priority in 2022-26.

BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees noted that the Trust currently has reserves of £3.9m, with free reserves of £2.4m. Trustees felt that the Trust should not retain such a high level of reserves at a time of severe, serious and likely ongoing crisis for the beneficiaries it serves. This is particularly so since the crisis is due in large part to high energy costs, and the Trust's fundamental mission is to help people in or at risk of financial hardship meet their energy costs and manage their energy bills. Moreover, the new Warm Home Discount scheme for 2022-26 coming into place, coupled with the Memorandum of Understanding from British Gas, provides greater assurance over funding for the Trust in the forthcoming period.

After discussion, Trustees were unanimous in approving the release of £1m from reserves and its designation into a new fund, the purpose of which will be to give grants to organisations and projects to provide relief from the cost-ofliving crisis, consistent with the Trust's mission. British Gas agreed to match this with an additional donation of £1m to the Trust.

Impact of Covid-19

Government measures to control the spread of Covid-19 did not directly affect the charity's in-house operations during the reporting period due to the organisation already being established for remote working as its normal operating model. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on vulnerable people across England, Scotland and Wales, and both the grantee organisations and many of those applying for debt-write-off grants have been adversely affected.

As the CIO's funding from British Gas to March 2026 is secure, the Covid-19 pandemic has not caused any direct financial uncertainties regarding the charity's immediate financial sustainability, and there is no impact on consideration of whether the CIO is a going concern.

The Charity's Trustees (as the CIO's sole volunteers) continued to assist the charity in its work in managing in the changed circumstances by making themselves fully available through digital channels (which is permitted by the constitution).

All executive team, grants administration and stakeholder meetings have taken place using digital channels, and grant giving continues uninterrupted throughout the period, using the online application portal and cloud-based or digital systems.

The CIO has considered the likely impact of the Government's virus control measures and their potential duration on the future aims and activities of the charity, as well as the impact of the virus-related control measures on any wider network of which the charity is a part and how this affects the charity's operations. As the restrictions lifted in stages, the funded organisations have, as expected, seen an increase in demand; this has been exacerbated by the increased cost of living including energy prices and inflation.

The CEO continues to work with the CIO's Head of Programmes, Head of Finance and Grant Administrator as well as the CEOs and leads of the funded organisations to ensure there has been support, flexibility and adaptability to funding over this period.

Structure, Governance and Management

The CIO, British Gas Energy Trust, was entered onto the Charity Commission's Register of Charities on 16 August 2018 with the registered charity number 1179578. On 28 February 2019, all assets from "British Gas Energy Trust", charity number 1106218, were transferred to the new CIO.

The CIO is governed by a constitution, approved by the Board of Trustees on 20 June 2018.

In selecting individuals for appointment as Trustees, the Trustees have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO. The following Trustees were on the Board during this financial period:

Hardial Bhogal (Appointed 19 May 2021) Helen Charlton Albert Chong Susan Deacon (Appointed 19 May 2021) William Wright Gillis Laurie Lee Mark McGillicuddy (Appointed 19 May 2021) Christina Thwaite (Appointed 19 May 2021) Sheila Wheeler

BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

In line with the principles of the Charity Governance Code 2017, trustees determine, control and monitor the CIO's activities. As explained in the introduction to this report and elsewhere, the reporting period has seen an intensive focus on governance, with the implementation of enhanced processes and new governance and operational systems being developed and implemented for the CIO.

The Trustees provide details of any potential conflicts of interest in a central register, which is reviewed annually. If a Trustee has a personal interest in a matter to be discussed at a meeting, the Trustee declares their interest prior to discussions beginning.

The Trustee Board meets quarterly to review overall progress of all activities including grants to individuals and families, the funded organisations, and the financials of the CIO and performance. Board papers are prepared in advance and retained for audit purposes. The Trustees' main Board and Finance Audit and Risk Sub-committee meetings are minuted, with minutes retained and centrally archived in a secure cloud-based system.

The CEO, Jessica Taplin, leads the CIO under delegated authority and supports the Board in delivering the CIO strategy through a robust governance and policy framework. The CEO oversees operations, communications and finance, and manages relationships with the grants' administrator, funded organisations, British Gas and other key stakeholders.

General Reporting and Authorisation Controls

Reporting

The Board meets on a quarterly basis, with an additional Annual Meeting. The Finance Audit and Risk Committee meets on a quarterly basis, with papers feeding into the subsequent Board meeting. The budget is set and agreed annually by the Board, covering all agreed income and expenditure allocation. Each month, management accounts are prepared comparing actual vs budget; and any material variances are investigated and action taken where necessary. The CEO's reports to the Board include financial performance. In addition, every quarter the CEO reports to the Finance Audit and Risk Committee. All CIO management accounts are shared quarterly with the Board and monthly with the Treasurer. The annual financial statements are independently audited.

The CIO works with its funder British Gas so that they can see the allocation of Warm Home Discount funds that they award to the CIO, via the sharing of quarterly activity reports from the grant administrator and other reporting mechanics.

Funded Organisations

The CIO pays grants to third party organisations on a quarterly basis or in accordance with signed funding agreements.

Legal Advisors

The CIO's legal advisors are Farrer & Co, appointed on 1 April 2021 following a competitive process.

Auditor

Trustees agreed to appoint Baldwins Audit Services – now known as Azets Audit Services – as Auditor of the CIO for a three-year period from February 2019.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

M M-Gillindhy

M McGillicuddy Treasurer & Trustee Dated: <u>19th</u> Nov. 2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
 Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and that enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of British Gas Energy Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https:// www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the entity through enquiry and inspection;
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and
- performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Other matters

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with current Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRITISH GAS ENERGY TRUST

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Azets Audit Services

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

25/10/22.

Ruthlyn House 90 Lincoln Road Peterborough United Kingdom PE1 2SP

Azets Audit Services is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £
Income from:	Notes	~	~	L	L
Donations and legacies Investments	3 4	6,000,070 412	2,300,000	8,300,070 412	6,000,848 1,975
Total income		6,000,482	2,300,000	8,300,482	6,002,823
Expenditure on: Charitable activities	5	5,834,757	1,150,459	6,985,216	6,182,633
Net income/(expenditure) for the year/ Net movement in funds		165,725	1,149,541	1,315,266	(179,810)
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		2,623,365	-	2,623,365	2,803,175
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		2,789,090	1,149,541	3,938,631	2,623,365

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

		20	22	20	21
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	11	481,970		43,684	
Cash at bank and in hand		6,001,512		4,200,263	
		6,483,482		4,243,947	
Creditors: amounts falling due within		-,,			
one year	12	(2,544,851)		(1,620,582)	
Net europt coosts			2 029 621		2 622 265
Net current assets			3,938,631		2,623,365
Income funds					
Restricted funds	14		1,149,541		-
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	15	369,510		791,012	
General unrestricted funds		2,419,580		1,832,353	
		-			
			2,789,090		2,623,365
			3,938,631		2,623,365

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on <u>15thSEPT</u>. 2022

M-Gillicuid des

M McGillicuddy Trustee

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

		2022		202	21
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities Cash generated from operations	18		1,800,837		1,400,072
Investing activities Investment income received		412		1,975	
Net cash generated from investing activities			412		1,975
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-1
Net increase in cash and cash equivale	ents		1,801,249		1,402,047
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning	of year		4,200,263		2,798,216
Cash and cash equivalents at end of ye	ear		6,001,512		4,200,263

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

British Gas Energy Trust is a charitable incorporated organisation registered on 16 August 2018 in England and Wales. The principal address is Farrer & Co LLP, 66 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LH.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest \pounds .

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects.

Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the Trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose. Designated funds are shown separately in the accounts for clarity.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific instructions imposed by the donor or Trust Deed.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income received in advance for future years has been treated as deferred income.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure and it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. In particular the following policies apply to grants payable:

- · Unconditional grants are accrued once the recipient has been notified of the grant award.
- Conditional grants, which are subject to performance conditions, are only accrued when the recipient
 has been notified of the grant award and any remaining unfulfilled conditions attached to the grant
 are outside the control of the charity.
- Provisions for grants are made when the recipient has been notified of a grant award, but the timing of the grant or the amount payable remains uncertain.

All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to statutory audit and legal fees, together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.7 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(Continued)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1 Accounting policies

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.8 Contingent liabilities

A contingent liability is identified and disclosed for those grants resulting from:

- a possible obligation which will only be confirmed by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the trustees' control; or
- a present obligation following a grant offer where settlement is either not considered probably; or
- the amount has not been communicated in the grant offer and that amount cannot be reliably estimated.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
Donations and gifts	6,000,070	2,300,000	8,300,070	6,000,848

4 Investments

Unrestr f	icted unds	Unrestricted funds
	2022 £	2021 £
Interest receivable	412	1,975

(Continued)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5 Charitable activities

6

	2022 £	2021 £
Direct charitable expenditure	587,882	693,251
Grant funding of activities (see note 6)	6,107,749	5,248,265
Share of support costs (see note 7)	131,147	121,367
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	158,438	119,750
	6,985,216	6,182,633
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	5,834,757	6,182,633
Restricted funds	1,150,459	-
	6,985,216	6,182,633
For the year ended 31 March 2021		3
Unrestricted funds	6,182,633	
Grants payable		
	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants to institutions: Organisational grants	3,789,500	3,559,415
Grants to individuals:		
Energy payments	1,855,705	1,565,035
Further assistance payments	462,544	123,815
	6,107,749	5,248,265

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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Support and governance costs							
	Support costs	Support Governance costs costs	2022	Support costs	Support Governance costs costs	2021	Basis of allocation
	ε ι	બ	બ	પ્ત	ų	ŝ	
Recruitment fees	75	,	75	75	17,110	17,185	Type of cost
CEO consultancy costs	32,918	10,973	43,891	32,802	10,934	43,736	% of time spent
Other consultancy fees	60,837	ļ	60,837	84,493		84,493	Support
Grant management system	12,948		12,948	ı	·	ï	Support
Other support costs	24,369	I	24,369	3,997	•	3,997	Support
Audit fees	,	5,940	5,940	т	5,040	5,040	Governance
Legal and professional	Ē	46,172	46,172	Ľ	44,405	44,405	Governance
Trustee expenses		31	31	•	348	348	Governance
Trustee insurance		1,991	1,991	1	1,309	1,309	Governance
Company Secretarial costs		15,153	15,153		1,604	1,604	Governance
Evaluation of funded							Governance
organisations programme	1	72,394	72,394	Т	25,140	25,140	
Internal audit fees	ĩ	5,784	5,784		13,860	13,860	Governance
	131,147	158,438	289,585	121,367	119,750	241,117	
And bottom							
Charitable activities	131,147	158,438	289,585	121,367	119,750	241,117	

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £5,940 (2021 - £5,040) for audit fees.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year, but one of them was reimbursed a total of \pounds 61 subsistence expenses (2021 – one was reimbursed \pounds 110).

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

			2022 Number	2021 Number
	Total		-	-
10	Financial instruments		2022	2021
			£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets			
	Other debtors		200,000	
	Bank and cash		6,001,512	4,200,263
	Measured at cost		6,201,512	4,200,263
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities			
	Trade creditors		92,533	50,980
	Accruals		52,318	69,602
	Measured at cost		144,851	120,582
11	Debtors			
			2022	2021
	Amounts falling due within one year:		£	£
	Other debtors		200,000	-
	Prepayments and accrued income		281,970	43,684
			481,970	43,684
12	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
			2022	2021
		Notes	£	£
	Deferred income	13	2,400,000	1,500,000
	Trade creditors		92,533	50,980
	Accruals		52,318	69,602
			2,544,851	1,620,582

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13 Deferred income

2	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income 2,400,	000	1,500,000

Deferred income consists of donations received in advance for the next financial year.

14 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		
t incoming	Resources	Balance at	
l resources	expended 31 March 2022		
£	£	£	
2,300,000	(1,150,459)	1,149,541	
E	1 resources E £	1 resources expended : E £ £	

15 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2020	Transfers	Balance at 1 April 2021	Transfers 3 ⁴	Balance at 1 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Operational contingency reserve	272,652	(67,121)	205,531	(205,531)	_
Cessation contingency reserve	20,000	15,000	35,000	334,510	369,510
Funded organisations reserve		550,481	550,481	(550,481)	-
	292,652	498,360	791,012	(421,502)	369,510

The operational contingency reserve represents an amount to cover the charity's obligations.

The cessation contingency reserve represents anticipated costs of winding up the charity, to cover legal and statutory costs not already included within other commitments.

The funded organisations reserve represents two months of budgeted grant expenditure.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Analysis of net assets between fund	ls				
	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:					
Current assets/(liabilities)	2,419,580	369,510	1,149,541	3,938,631	2,623,365
	2,419,580	369,510	1,149,541	3,938,631	2,623,365
	Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:	funds 2022 £ Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by: Current assets/(liabilities) 2,419,580	Unrestricted fundsDesignated funds20222022££Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by: Current assets/(liabilities)2,419,5802,419,580369,510	Unrestricted fundsDesignated fundsRestricted funds202220222022£££Fund balances at 31 March 	Unrestricted fundsDesignated fundsRestricted fundsTotalfundsfundsfundsfunds2022202220222022££££Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by: Current assets/(liabilities)2,419,580369,5101,149,5413,938,631

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

18	Cash generated from operations	2022 £	2021 £
	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	1,315,266	(179,810)
	Adjustments for: Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(412)	(1,975)
	Movements in working capital: (Increase)/decrease in debtors Increase/(decrease) in creditors Increase in deferred income	(438,286) 24,269 900,000	127,356 (45,499) 1,500,000
	Cash generated from operations	1,800,837	1,400,072

19 Analysis of changes in net funds The charity had no debt during the year.